

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. **(Currently Amended)** An ultrasonic operating apparatus comprising:
an elongate insert portion ~~capable of being~~ operable to be inserted into a body cavity;
an operating portion located on a distal end portion of the insert portion, the operating portion effective to be used to operate an organism tissue;
a handling portion coupled to a proximal end portion of said insert portion, the handling portion having therein an ultrasonic vibrator capable of generating ultrasonic vibration;
a covering tube located around said insert portion;
a vibration transmitting member passed through the covering tube, the vibration transmitting member having an ultrasonic probe on a side of said operating portion and capable of transmitting the ultrasonic vibration from said ultrasonic vibrator to said ultrasonic probe;
a jaw rockably supported opposite said ultrasonic probe and capable of seizing the organism tissue in conjunction with said ultrasonic probe;
a control handle located in said handling portion and capable of opening and closing said jaw with respect to said ultrasonic probe; ~~and~~
a handling force transmitting member coupling said jaw and said control handle, and capable of transmitting handling force from said control handle to said jaw[.]; ~~and~~
said jaw including a frame-shaped jaw body having at least supporting arms arranged individually on the opposite sides of a slot extending in an axial direction of said insert portion, a tip capable of seizing the organism tissue in conjunction with said ultrasonic probe, and a joint portion removably coupling said tip between said supporting arms of said jaw body, wherein the jaw body is provided at the end portion of the insert portion and is attached to the tip so as to rotate therewith.
2. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~[[An]]~~ ultrasonic operating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said ultrasonic probe has an asymmetric curved portion curved with respect to a central axis of said insert portion.

3. (Currently Amended) The [[An]] ultrasonic operating apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said curved portion is formed symmetrically with respect to a direction in which said jaw is opened or closed.

4. (Currently Amended) The [[An]] ultrasonic operating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said jaw body is designed so that support shaft portions of said tip protrude inward from the respective distal end portions of said two supporting arms, and said tip has mounting holes into which said support shaft portions are removably inserted and guide grooves for guiding said support shaft portions to said mounting holes as said tip is attached to said jaw body, said guide grooves individually having taper surfaces for movement such that the space between the respective support shaft portions of said two supporting arms widens toward said mounting holes and click step portions for preventing said support shaft portions from slipping out of said mounting holes.

5. (Previously Presented) A tool for changing a tip of an ultrasonic operating apparatus, the tool comprising:

a tip changing tool body having an insertion hole into which a distal operating portion of said ultrasonic operating apparatus is inserted and a stopper portion;

a handling arm coupled to said tool body so as to be rockable around a hinge portion located on an inlet side of said insertion hole of the tool body; and

wedge-shaped separating portions adapted to be removably inserted into spaces between a tip for seizing an organism tissue and supporting arms on the opposite sides of a jaw body of said distal operating portion as the handling arm rocks, thereby effective to move said supporting arms in a direction such that indented fitting portions of said supporting arms and said tip are disengaged from one another, wherein the jaw body is provided at the end portion of the insert portion and is attached to the tip so as to rotate therewith.

6. (Currently Amended) An ultrasonic operating apparatus comprising:
a vibrator for generating ultrasonic vibration;

a probe removably mounted on the vibrator, the probe having an allowance portion for transmitting ultrasonic vibration from the vibrator to a distal end portion and for treating an organism tissue at the distal end portion with an ultrasonic wave; and

a distal end acting portion mounted to be detachable from the allowance portion, the distal end acting portion having a jaw for seizing the organism tissue between the seizing portion and the allowance portion, and a seizing portion attached to the jaw so as to rotate therewith; and

~~a locking means for engagingly locking portion operative to disengageably lock the seizing portion to be disengageable from to the distal end acting portion, the locking means portion being capable of removing operative to release the seizing portion assembled with the distal end acting portion by using a dedicated tool.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The [[An]] ultrasonic operating apparatus of claim 6, wherein the locking means portion includes:

a locking portion member which utilizes elastic deformation for at least one of the distal end acting portion and the seizing portion; and

a mechanism for locking both of the distal end acting portion and the seizing portion by means of the locking portion and for suppressing the elastic deformation in a locked state.

8. (Currently Amended) The [[An]] ultrasonic operating apparatus of claim 6, wherein the seizing portion is released from the locked state by means of the dedicated tool.

9. (Currently Amended) An ultrasonic operating apparatus system comprising:

a vibrator unit having a ultrasonic vibrator for generating ultrasonic vibration;

a probe unit which comprises an elongated vibration transmitting member having a proximal end portion removably connected to the ultrasonic vibrator and a distal end portion at which a distal end allowance portion is arranged, the probe unit transmitting the ultrasonic vibration generated by means of the ultrasonic vibrator to the distal end allowance portion;

a handle unit removably coupled with an operating portion unit having a seizing member supported to be detachable from the distal end allowance portion, the handle unit being adopted operative to operate the seizing member for the distal end allowance portion;

an ultrasonic operating apparatus main body with which the vibrator unit, the probe unit, and the handle unit are removably assembled;

a probe unit replacing member assembled to be replaceable with the probe unit with respect to the ultrasonic operating apparatus main body, the probe unit replacing member having the distal end allowance portion in a shape different from the probe unit; and

an operating unit replacing member assembled to be replaceable with the operating unit with respect to the ultrasonic apparatus main body, the operating unit replacing member having the seizing member in shape corresponding to a distal end allowance portion of the probe unit replacing member, wherein corresponding parts between the probe unit replacing member and the operating unit replacing member can be selectively mounted on the ultrasonic operating apparatus main body properly.

10. (Currently Amended) The [[An]] ultrasonic operating apparatus system of claim 9, wherein the handle unit has a first handle on a stationary side and a second handle turnably mounted on the first handle, the vibrator unit and the probe unit are coupled with the first handle, respectively, and the operating unit is coupled with the second handle.

11. (Currently Amended) The [[An]] ultrasonic operating apparatus system of claim 9, wherein the handle unit includes;

an operating portion for an operator to make operation;

an insert sheath portion having an elongated covering tube mounted on the operating portion; and

a distal end acting portion provided at a distal end of the insert sheath portion, the acting portion acting according to operation of the operating portion.